

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that Claims 44-50 are allowed, while Claims 27-29, 31-33 and 35-37 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the above, Applicants will now address the Examiner's remaining rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 2, 7, 19, 23 and 43 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Burroughs.

While this rejection is respectfully traversed, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 2 and 43 to incorporate the allowable feature of dependent Claim 27 (which has been canceled). Therefore, independent Claims 2 and 43, and those claims dependent thereon, are allowable over the cited reference. Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 4-6, 8-9, 11-13, 15-17, 20-21, 24-25, 39-41 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Burroughs in view of Kimura.

While this rejection is also respectfully traversed, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 5 and 6 to incorporate the allowable feature of dependent Claims 28, 29, respectively (which have been canceled). Therefore, independent Claims 5 and 6, and those claims dependent thereon, are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants are preparing and will submit an information disclosure statement (IDS) in the near future. It is requested that this IDS be considered prior to the issuance of any further action in this application.

Conclusion

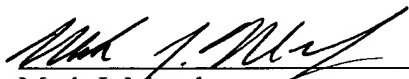
It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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